

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. (Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.)

At this early stage, the Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of a draft EIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions (*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978)). Also environmental objections that could be raised at the draft EIS stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final EIS may be waived or dismissed by the courts. (*City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980)). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final EIS.

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed in March 2000. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to comments and responses received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS and applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making the decision regarding this proposal. The Forest Service is the lead agency for this environmental analysis. The responsible official is the Chelan District Ranger. The responsible official will document the Upper North Fork 25 Fire Restoration decision and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to Forest Service Appeal Regulations (36 CFR part 215).

Dated: September 14, 1999.

Al Murphy,

Chelan District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 99-24890 Filed 9-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Transfer of Jurisdiction

AGENCY: USDA—Forest Service.

ACTION: Transfer of jurisdiction of the Townsite of Dutch John, Utah, to the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.

SUMMARY: On June 24, 1999, Jeanne A. Evenden, Director of Lands, Regional Office, Intermountain Region, signed a Transfer Order transferring jurisdiction of 2,432.73 acres of land within the Townsite of Dutch John, Utah, Ashley National Forest, to the USDI Bureau of Reclamation.

This action is in compliance with Section 6 of the Dutch John Federal Property Disposition and Assistance Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-326).

Copies of the Transfer Order are available for public inspection at the Chief's Office, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Auditors Building, 210 14th Street, SW at Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250, or the Ashley National Forest, 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, UT 84078.

Dated: September 10, 1999.

Jack A. Blackwell,

Regional Forester, Intermountain Region, USDA Forest Service, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401, (801) 625-5605.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Olympic Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of field trip and meeting.

SUMMARY: The Olympic PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on October 20 & 21, 1999. The meeting will begin at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, October 20 which will be spent in the field visiting Special Forest Product's facilities and sites. The committee will assemble at the Forest's Headquarters office in Olympia before traveling to the field. The field trip will conclude

approximately 4:00 PM. On Thursday the 21st, the meeting will be held in the Olympic National Forest Headquarter's office at 1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW, Olympia, Washington. The meeting will be in the Willaby Conference room and will begin at 8:00 AM and end at approximately 2:30 PM. Agenda topics are: (1) Update on Survey & Manage; (2) Bull trout listing; (3) Regional Ecosystems Office update; (4) Topics for future committee discussion; (5) Open forum; and (8) Public comments.

All Olympic Province Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Ken Eldredge, Province Liaison, USDA, Olympic National Forest Headquarters, 1835 Black Lake Blvd. Olympia, WA 98512-5623, (360) 956-2323 or Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor, at (360) 956-2301.

Dated: September 17, 1999.

Dale Hom,

Forest Supervisor, Olympic National Forest.

[FR Doc. 99-24874 Filed 9-23-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Notice of Request for New Information Collection

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration's (GIPSA) intent to request approval for a new information collection related to the delivery of services conducted under the official inspection, grading, and weighing programs authorized under the United States Grain Standards Act and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. This voluntary survey would give customers of the official inspection, grading, and weighing programs, who are primarily in the grain, oilseed, rice, lentil, dry pea, edible bean, and related agricultural commodity markets, an opportunity to provide feedback on the quality of services they receive and will provide information on new services that they would like to receive. This feedback would assist GIPSA's Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) to